

Message Text

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46

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 DHA-02 AF-08 ARA-06 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 ACDA-07 SCCT-01 AID-05 EB-07 /119 W

----- 031102

O P 081946Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9730

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

US MISSION USUN IMMEDIATE 910

EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 1845

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, SHUM

SUBJ: 60TH ECOSOC: VOTE ON RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO
DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

REF: STATE 110990

SUMMARY: CANADIANS INCLINED VOTE AGAINST RES. 1714,
WOULD FIND IT MORE DIFFICULT VOTE AGAINST RES. 1713, BUT
ON BOTH ARE CONCERNED OVER POSSIBILITY THEY WILL BE
ALONE. THEIR DECISION WOULD BE EASIER IF EITHER OF TWO
WEO WAVERERS, BELGIUM AND DENMARK, WOULD ALSO BITE THE
BULLET. THEY SUSPECT CONCERN OVER VOTES' IMPACT ON
FORTHCOMING EC-ARAB MEETING MAY HAVE INDUCED EC TO ADOPT
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ABSTENTION DECISION. CANADIAN VOTES WILL BE DECIDED BY EXTAFF

SECSTATE MACEACHEN, WHO NOW IN LONDON RETURNING OTTAWA TOMORROW, PROBABLY LARGELY ON BASIS OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND PRESUMED EFFECT ON HABITAT CONFERENCE.
END SUMMARY

1. POLCOUNS CONTACTED EXTAFK ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY BISSONNETTE MORNING MAY 8 AND PROVIDED HIM COPY OF REFTEL. BISSONNETTE AT THAT MOMENT WAS DRAFTING TELEGRAM SEEKING INSTRUCTIONS FROM EXTAFK SECSTATE MACEACHEN WHO SPENDING TODAY AT CANADIAN HICOM LONDON RETURNING OTTAWA SUNDAY. SEPARATELY EXTAFK UNDER-SECRETARY ROBINSON SEEKING CONTACT MACEACHEN OR HIS AIDE SHORTLIFFE BY PHONE FOR SAME PURPOSE.

2. BISSONNETTE INDICATED THAT DECISION FOR CANADA ON RESES MOST DIFFICULT SINCE, WITH US NOT PARTICIPATING AND WITH OTHER WEO DELS INCLINING TOWARD ABSTENTION, CANADA MIGHT FIND ITSELF ALONE IN NEGATIVE VOTES. IN CONTRAST TO USUAL ADVANCE CONSULTATION PROCEDURES, EC DELS HAD NOT DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH CANDEL PRIOR TO REACHING ABSTENTION DECISION. HE SPECULATED THAT EC DECISION MAY WELL HAVE BEEN DICTATED BY EC CONCERN THAT NEGATIVE VOTES WOULD MUDDY ATMOSPHERE FOR EC-ARAB DIALOGUE SCHEDULED RESUME MAY 18-20.

3. CABDEK REOIRTED LAST NIGHT THAT BELGIANS STILL AGONIZING OVER DECISION ON VOTES. WHILE BELGIANS HAD EARLIER GIVEN INDICATION THEIR VOTES WOULD BE NEGATIVE, EC ADOPTION OF ABSTENTION POSITION WAS FORCING BELGIAN RE-STUDY. LATEST INDICATION IS THAT THEY WILL ABSTAIN BUT MIGHT FORCE PARA-BY-PARA VOTE ON OMNIBUS RES (1713) IF PREAMBULAR PARA READING "RECALLING THE RESOLUTION" WERE PLURALIZED AND THEREFORE IMPLICITLY INCLUDED NOT JUST RES CALLING FOR THE DECADE BUT ALSO IMPLICITLY RES 3379. BELGIANS ARE APPARENTLY PERSUADED THAT OPERATIVE PARA "RESOLUTIONS AND/OR MEASURES BEARING ON RACISM ...CALLED FOR UNDER THE PROGRAM FOR THE DECADE" CAN BE SAID TO EXCLUDE RES 3379 SINCE IT NOT CALLED FOR UNDER THE PROGRAM. BISSONNETTE COMMENTED THAT THIS ARGUMENT SPECIOUS SINCE PROGRAM DOES NOT CALL FOR ANY RESOLUTIONS. HE UNCLEAR ABOUT BELGIAN
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POSITION ON FINANCING RESOLUTION (1714).

4. CANDEL HAD NO COMMENT ON DANISH POSITION WHOSE INSTRUCTIONS DELAYED BY COMMUNICATIONS DIFFICULTIES.

5. BISSONNETTE INDICATED THAT, DESPITE DISCOMFORT OF BEING ISOLATED, HIS PERSONAL PREFERENCE (AND PRESUMABLY RECOMMENDATION GOING TO MACEACHEN) IS TO VOTE AGAINST

BOTH RESES. DEBATE GOING ON IN GOC CIRCLES CENTERS AROUND IMPACT VOTE MAY HAVE ON CANADIAN STANDING AMONG THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, DOMESTIC POLITICAL EFFECT, AND EFFECT ON ATTENDANCE AT HABITAT CONFERENCE IN VANCOUVER. HE ALLUDED TO ARGUMENTS THAT CAN BE MADE ON BOTH SIDES ON ALL THESE ISSUES: ARGUMENT THAT NEGATIVE VOTE WILL HARM RELATIONS WITH THIRD WORLD COUNTERED BY ARGUMENT THAT VOTE WILL HAVE NO SUCH EFFECT SINCE CANADIAN POSITION ON ZIONISM/RACISM RES WELL KNOWN; ARGUMENT THAT NEGATIVE VOTE WILL BE INTERPRETED AS BOWING TO PRO-ISRAEL SENTIMENT COUNTERED BY ARGUMENT THAT PRO-ISRAEL CONSTITUENCY IMPORTANT AND THAT GOC INCREASINGLY CRITICIZED DOMESTICALLY FOR WAFLING IN UN BY ABSTAINING ON ISSUES; ARGUMENT THAT NEGATIVE VOTE WILL INDUCE PLO AND OTHERS TO STAY AWAY FROM HABITAT COUNTERED BY ARGUMENT THAT THERE IS NO WAY PLO WILL PASS UP LEGITIMIZING EXPOSURE OF ATTENDANCE AT HABITAT.

6. BISSONNETTE EMPHASIZED THAT DECISION RESTS ENTIRELY WITH MACEACHEN. SINCE LATTER HAS BEEN AWAY FROM OTTAWA FOR PAST TEN DAYS, HIS CURRENT THINKING UNKNOWN. HOWEVER, BISSONNETTE UNDER IMPRESSION THAT MACEACHEN INCLINED TO "STAND TOUGH", BOTH BECAUSE HE PERSONALLY STRONGLY COMMITTED TO PRINCIPLE THAT ZIONISM-IS-RACISM CONCEPT SHOULD NOT BE ACCORDED ANY FURTHER LEGITIMACY, AND BECAUSE HE BELIEVES THAT STRONG STAND ON THAT ISSUE NOW WILL ENHANCE POSSIBILITY OF KEEPING HABITAT DEPOLITICIZED.

7. BISSONNETTE CONCLUDED THAT CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT CANDEL WILL VOTE AGAINST RES 1714 BOTH BECAUSE OF LINKAGE WITH RES 3379 AND ALSO BECAUSE GOC COMMITTED TO PRINCIPLE THAT UN CONFERENCES HELD OUTSIDE REGULAR VENUES SHOULD BE LARGELY FINANCED BY HOST COUNTRY. SITUATION SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT ON 1713 SINCE ISOLATION ARGUMENT BOLSTERED
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BY BELGIAN ARGUMENTATION GIVES ABSTENTION ADVOCATES GREATER LEVERAGE.

8. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT THAT PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO MACEACHEN DELIVERED IN LONDON TONIGHT OR OTTAWA TOMORROW MIGHT JUST DO THE TRICK, PARTICULARLY IF IT COULD CONVEY NEWS THAT BELGIANS AND/OR DANES HAD DECIDED ON NEGATIVE VOTES.
ENDERS

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